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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GANG WAR

ZEB WELLS | JOHN ROMITA JR.
SCOTT HANNA | MARCIO MENYZ

MARVEL

VOLUME 09

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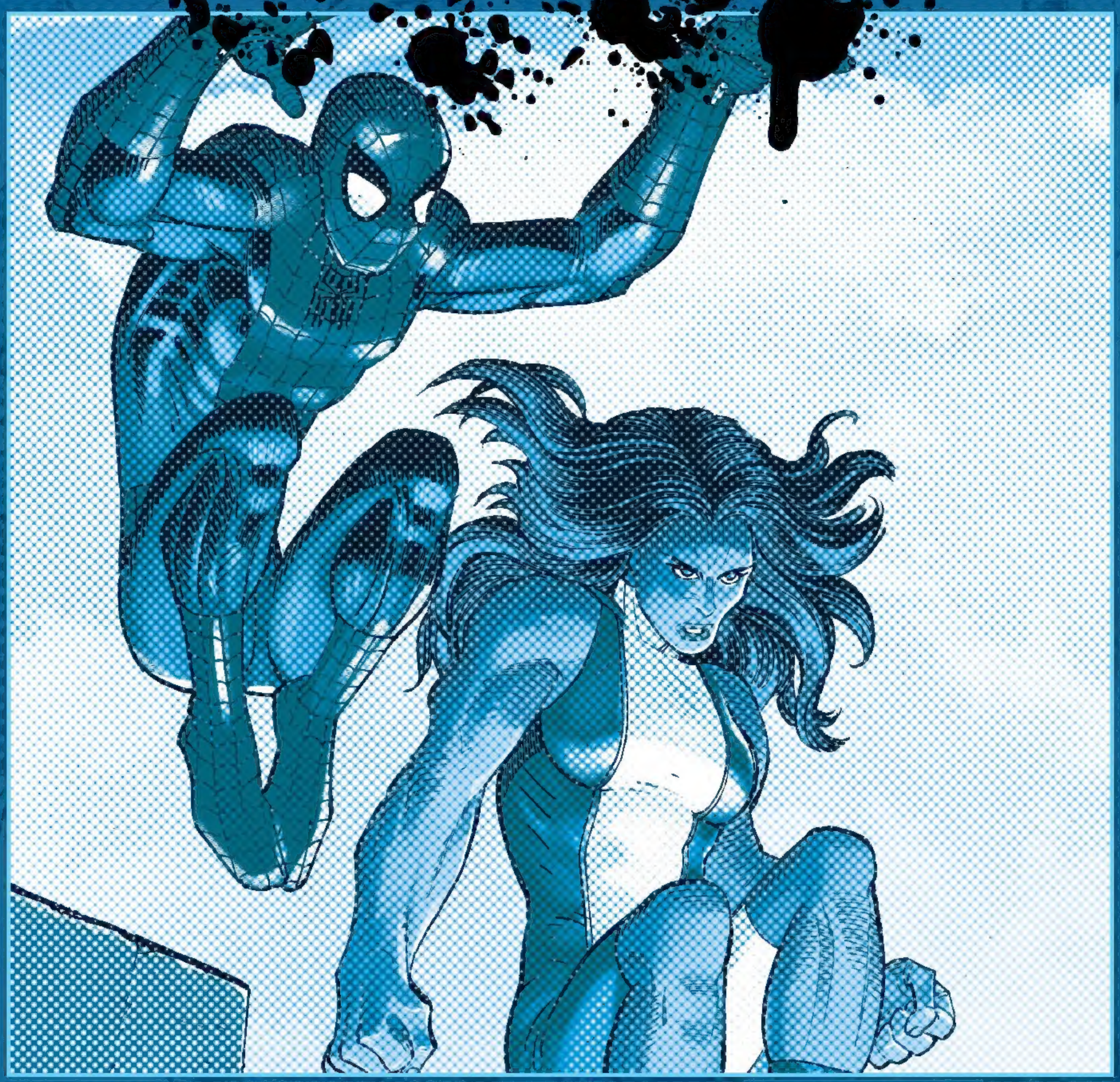

SPIDER-MAN

The wedding of PETER PARKER's best friend RANDY ROBERTSON and JANICE LINCOLN, A.K.A. BEETLE, was meant to be the event of the season, but it quickly turned into a tragedy. The wedding was crashed by SHOTGUN, who managed to gun down Janice's father, TOMBSTONE, despite his bulletproof skin. In the ensuing chaos, Hammerhead took out MADAME MASQUE, with all the other crime bosses of NYC none the wiser. In the days since, Randy and Janice haven't reconciled, Janice staying by her father's side in the hospital while Randy has poured himself into activism, working with Mayor LUKE CAGE to repeal Fisk's Law, which outlaws super heroes in NYC. Randy has tried to convince SPIDER-MAN to join in his quest, to no avail.

With Masque taken out and Tombstone in a coma, the delicate balance of power in New York's criminal underworld is at risk, and the smallest spark could light the flames of an all-out war.

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GANG WAR

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: GANG WAR FIRST STRIKE
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THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO
SHARI ANN MYERS – 1963-2023

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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

MY
SAID
SEVE
DR
JR
S. Hanzo
MENE

GANG WAR

TERRITORIES

ARTHUR AVENUE. THE BRONX.

I SEE SOME NEW FACES HERE SO I'LL *SPEAK UP...*

WHO THE #$%& RAN ME OUT OF *RED HOOK?*

DON'T LOOK AT ME...

...MY PARTNERSHIP WITH A.I.M. IS STRICTLY *DEFENSIVE.* AND *MERCENARY...*

...WE'RE-- *AHEM*--OPEN FOR BUSINESS.

A LITTLE BIRD TOLD ME YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK *NORTH* TO *HARLEM.*

I HAVE ONLY TO LOOK ACROSS THE TABLE TO SEE MY *ENEMY.*

I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T MOVE ON YOU, *YULAN!* I--

WHAT IS *SHANG-CHI* DOING HERE?!

REPRESENTING THE FIVE WEAPONS SOCIETY. WE ARE LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES IN NEW YORK...AND WE WILL ONLY ASK NICELY *ONCE.*

FUNNY HOW THE BOOGEY-MEN ALWAYS LIVE IN *HARLEM,* HUH?

QUIT DREAMING BEFORE YOU MESS YOUR BED... I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR *RED HOOK. MADAME MASQUE* IS *DEAD,* AND I'VE GOT PLANS FOR HER *TERRITORY.*

ANYONE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT?

HAIL HYDRA!

FINANCIAL DISTRICT

THAT'S WHAT YOUR NEW *FRIENDS* SAY, AIN'T IT?

OR DID YOU THINK YOUR LITTLE PARTNERSHIP FLEW UNDER MY RADAR.

PRETTY SUSPICIOUS, *MADAME MASQUE* GETTIN' OFFED JUST IN TIME FOR YOU TO *EXPAND.*

YOU BETTER HOPE HER POPS DON'T SHARE THOSE SAME... *SUSPICIONS.*

COUNT NEFARIA KNOWS I WOULD NEVER MAKE A MOVE LIKE THAT. I PLAY FAIR.

IN THAT SPIRIT, I'M GIVING UP MY CLAIM TO TOMBSTONE'S SPOT.

I WANT IT! AND ITS HIGH TIME I GET AN ANSWER. IT'S BEEN SITTING THERE SINCE HE GOT OFFED AT HIS DAUGHTER'S WEDDING.

ALMOST OFFED, MARIAH. HE'S HOOKED UP TO TUBES AT THE *HARLEM HOSPITAL CENTER*. DON'T KNOW IF HE'S GONNA MAKE IT.

BUT... *UNKNOWNS* AREN'T GOOD FOR BUSINESS... MAYBE IT'S TIME TO MAKE A DECISION...

WE'RE LATE, WE'RE LATE!

FOR A VERY DARK, VERY SMOKY DATE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE, RABBIT?

DELIVERING A MESSAGE.

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU PUT YOUR HEAD OUT IN AN ASHTRAY.

THAT'S THE WHOLE MESSAGE.

SHE IS.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY BUSINESS HERE, JANICE.

YOUR FATHER'S SEAT IS CURRENTLY EMPTY.

AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO KEEP AN EYE ON TOMBSTONE'S GIRL?

LET ME FIX THAT FOR YOU.

THERE.

YOU DON'T GET TO JUST *TAKE* A SEAT. THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS. THERE ARE *RULES.*

EVERYONE HERE HAS *EARNED* THE RIGHT TO BE HERE.

AND SINCE I DON'T PLAN ON LETTING ONE OF YOU *VULTURES* TAKE MY FATHER'S TERRITORY...

...I LOOK FORWARD TO DOING THE SAME.

YOU KNOW, I NEVER THANKED YOU FOR INVITIN' ME TO YOUR WEDDING. IT'S WHERE I MET *WHAT'S-HER-NAME,* HERE.

YOU NEVER DID GET THAT KNOT *TIED,* DID YOU? YOU STILL SEE THAT FIANCE OF YOURS? THE ROBERTSON KID?

I'M NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT MY *PERSONAL LIFE,* HAMMERHEAD.

HA. 'FRAID YOU *HAVE TO.*

YOU SEE, SOMEONE'S TRYIN' TO GET *SUPER HEROES LEGALIZED* IN *NEW YORK CITY* AGAIN, AND WE'VE GOTTA STOP HIM...

IF YOU WANT A SEAT AT THE TABLE, YOU GOTTA TAKE CARE OF HIM FOR US. AND WHAT THAT MEANS IS...

...YOU GOTTA KILL RANDY ROBERTSON.

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

DON'T LET THE DOOR HIT YOUR ASS ON THE WAY--

GIVE ME 24 HOURS.

AND WHILE I'M GONE...

...NOBODY TOUCH THAT #$%&ING SEAT.

YOU *SURE* YOU DON'T WANNA JUST GIVE UP?

THWIP

THWIP

AND WHERE'D THE FUN BE IN *THAT*, SPIDER-MAN?

COME ON, SLYDE. DON'T YOU HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN WASTE THE SPIDER-MEN'S TIME?

GRR!

WAIT, "SPIDER-*MEN*"?!

YOU HEARD THE MAN.

WE'RE A TWO-FOR-ONE KIND OF DEAL.

THWIP!

SERIOUSLY?!

YOU'RE REALLY LOOKING TO WASTE OUR TIME TODAY, *HUH*, BUDDY?

CATCH AS CATCH CAN, SPIDER-NERDS!

YOU HAVE A CATCHPHRASE NOW? YOU'RE BETTER THAN THIS.

I'M REALLY NOT.

SORRY, MAN, BUT I JUST DO NOT HAVE THE TIME FOR THIS TODAY.

THE HELL KINDA SPIDER MAKES A--

--SWORD--? *GAAAAH!*

CRASH!

Ugggghhh--

NAH, I'M GONNA DO THE TALKING RIGHT NOW. YOU HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO REACH OUT AND NEVER DID.

COME ON, IT WASN'T THAT SIMPLE...

DANG, SO YOU CAN DO A ***SWORD*** NOW? GUESS A LOT'S CHANGED SINCE I'VE BEEN GONE, *HUH?*

YEAH, MAN, IT REALLY ***HAS***... GUESS THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GHOST FOLKS.

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE--

YEAH, IT REALLY ***WAS***. YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY PERSON GOING THROUGH THINGS, MAN. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NICE TO...

LOOK, I WASN'T TRYING TO DO THIS. I... RUNNING INTO YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN ***NICE***, BUT...MAN, YOU'VE MADE BEING YOUR FRIEND REALLY DIFFICULT, MY GUY.

IF I HAD A NICKEL FOR EVERY TIME I'VE HEARD--

WHAT IS THIS, PETE? BE FOR REAL! YOU LEFT US FOR SIX MONTHS, MAN. YOU LEFT ME!

I HAD TO STEP UP TO BE THE SPIDER-MAN YOU APPARENTLY WERE TOO BUSY TO BE, PETE! AND IT SUCKED. IT REALLY #$%& SUCKED! I NEEDED YOU, MAN! AND YOU JUST... ***DISAPPEARED***, BRO!

I--I'M SORRY I LET YOU DOWN. BEEN MAKING A HABIT OF SAYIN' THAT A LOT THESE PAST WEEKS, BUT IT'S TRUE.

YEAH, WELL, DON'T JUST APOLOGIZE TO ME. IT'S THE FOLKS OF THE CITY WHO'LL HAVE TO PAY.

MILES, I--

YOU KNOW HOW I KNOW? 'CAUSE I SPENT ALL AFTERNOON WITH MISTY KNIGHT, MAYOR CAGE, AND RANDY ROBERTSON TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE IT ***LEGAL*** FOR US TO PROTECT THIS CITY AGAIN!

THEY TRIED TO REACH OUT A FEW TIMES, BUT I KINDA...BLEW THEM OFF. ANOTHER THING I'M NOT EXACTLY PROUD OF...

YEAH, 'CAUSE YOU ***SHOULDN'T*** BE! I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M THE ONE WHO'S GOTTA ***REMIND*** YOU OF THIS, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE YOU FORGOT...

..."WITH GREAT POWER, THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY."

FEEL LIKE YOU COULD DO WELL TO REMEMBER THAT.

MAN, HAVEN'T HAD MY BUTT KICKED LIKE THAT IN A WHILE.

THANK YOU. MILES...SPIDER-MAN... YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.

WORD.

IF YOU WANT ME, YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME.

I DO.

GRACIE MANSION.

GIVE ME SOME GOOD NEWS, MR. MAYOR...

I WISH I COULD DO THAT, RANDY. I APPRECIATE EVERYTHING YOU'RE DOING TO NUDGE PUBLIC SENTIMENT AGAINST FISK'S LAW...

...BUT NONE OF IT MEANS A *THING* IF I CAN'T FORCE A VOTE.

MAYOR CAGE

I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT.

I'M ABOUT TO TALK TO A GROUP OF *REPEAL SUPPORTERS*, AND I WANTED TO GIVE THEM SOME *HOPE*.

YOU TELL THEM TO KEEP THE FAITH--

WAIT...IS THAT WHAT ALL THAT *RUCKUS* IS?

HOW MANY SUPPORTERS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

I DON'T KNOW.

ALL OF THEM?

REPEAL ANTI HERO LAWS

BRING OUR HEROES BACK

WE ♥ HEROES

IRON MAN SAVED MY DAD

HEROES SAVED MY LIFE

SUPER HEROES RULE!

KEEP HEROES LEGAL

FISK'S STUPID LAW IS PAST ITS PRIME! KINGPIN SHOULD HAVE STUCK TO CRIME!

REPEAL ANTI

MAKE HEROES LEGAL

REPEAL ANTI HERO LAWS!

LOOK AT ALL OF 'EM! THEY REALLY WANT THEIR SUPER HEROES BACK.

YEAH, THEY'RE MAKIN' SOME NOISE ALL RIGHT.

SO WHAT YOU GONNA DO?

WHAT WE *ALWAYS* DO...

"...FIND THE ONE MAKING THE MOST NOISE."

"EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US DESERVES A CHANCE TO USE **OUR** SUPER-POWER. OUR **VOTE.**"

NO, THAT'S TERRIBLE.

THESE PEOPLE ARE ONLY BRAVE 'CUS THEY DON'T THINK ***BRAVE*** HAS A COST.

"MY JOB IS TO SHOW 'EM THEY'RE WRONG."

YOU'RE DONE, RANDY.

J-JANICE?

NO.

NOT TONIGHT.

YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED OUT OF THIS.

YOU CAME TO SCARE ME?

I RAN OUT OF SCARED WATCHING MY PARENTS *DODGE BULLETS* AT OUR *WEDDING*--

YEARRGH!

WHAM!

POOR LITTLE *RANDY!* ALMOST MARRIED A *THUG.*

A *MURDERER!*

LIKE MY *FATHER!*

GKKK--

IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK I AM?!

N-NO...

NO, I D-DON'T...

BUT I BET WHOEVER SENT YOU *DOES*...

IT AIN'T RIGHT, YA KNOW?

ASKIN' HER TO KILL HER BOYFRIEND.

NO, IT AIN'T. IT'D TAKE A *COLD, COLD SOUL* TO DO THAT. BUT DON'T WORRY YOURSELF OUT OF A JOB TONIGHT...

SHE AIN'T GONNA DO A *THING.*

"SHE MAY *THINK* SHE'S A *KILLER.*

"BUT SHE'S *NOT.*

"I KNOW IT...

"...AND NOW *SHE* DOES TOO."

SO YOU'RE NOT WHACKING HIM?

HA.

HA HA.

"I NEVER SAID THAT."

GO. YOU'VE GOT TO GO NOW.

JANICE...?

LEAVE THE STATE! LEAVE--

THERE HE IS!

OH GOD--

SHOULDA KEPT YOUR MOUTH SHUT, ROBERTSON!

RANDY!

LOOK OU--!

BANG

BANG

BANG

LUKE?

I NEED TO TALK ABOUT RANDY ROBERTSON.

SPIDEY, I--

WE'LL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN.

THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE ABOUT.

RANDY'S RIGHT. I'VE BEEN SITTING ON THE SIDELINES FOR TOO LONG. I NEED TO BE MORE PROACTIVE.

I WANT TO HELP.

HELP?

NO ONE TOLD YOU?

TOLD ME WHAT?

MR. ROBERTSON!

OH MY GOD! MR. ROBERTSON. YOU'RE OKAY! OH MY GOD.

THE ADMITTANCE PAPERS--I MUST HAVE MISREAD THEM.

WHAT DID THEY SAY?

THAT YOU'D BEEN SHOT! I MUST HAVE BEEN MOVING TOO FAST. I'M SORRY. WHEW--

RIGHT. OKAY, HERE WE GO. IT WAS A DIFFERENT *ROBERTSON.*

SOMEONE NAMED *"RANDY."*

I...I'M SORRY.

RANDY...

RANDY?!

I DIDN'T WANT THIS TO HAPPEN. HE JUMPED IN FRONT OF ME...

PLEASE... I WANT TO HELP...

HELP?!

YOU DON'T PUT ON THAT COSTUME TO *HELP.*

GET OUT OF HERE!

GET THE HELL AWAY FROM MY SON!

HE'S LOSING BLOOD!

WE'VE GOT TO MOVE HIM!

GO!

YOU KEPT HER MASK?

WHADDYA WANT?

YOU DON'T WIN MANY *TROPHIES* IN MY LINE OF WORK.

Hmmm.

I DON'T LIKE THAT YOU SHOT THE KID.

HA!

SOMEBODY *ASKIN'*?

NOW WALK THAT PRETTY FACE OF YOURS OVER HERE.

PEOPLE LIKED HIM, IS ALL I'M SAYING.

INSTEAD OF SCARIN' 'EM, YOU MIGHT WAKE 'EM UP--

AAAH!

YOU THINK YOU KNOW ANYTHING?! LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION!

ARE YOU *SCARED?* OR ARE YOU *AWAKE?*

I--I DON'T KNOW, JOEY.

I DON'T KNOW.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AND IT DOESN'T MATTER.

AAAH!

WHAT MATTERS IS YOU'RE ON THE GROUND AND I'M NOT.

AND THAT'S 'CAUSE I'M EXACTLY AS *MEAN* AS I *NEED* TO BE.

WHICH IS WHY I'M IN CHARGE OF THAT ROOM OF PSYCHOS BACK THERE.

A ROOM FULL OF *KILLERS* WHO WANT NOTHIN' MORE THAN TO *KILL* EACH OTHER.

THING IS...I'M THE REASON THEY WANT TO *ACE* EACH OTHER IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THEN I GIVE *MYSELF* THE JOB OF KEEPING EVERYTHING FROM BLOWING UP LIKE GRADE-A TNT.

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL *JOB SECURITY.*

WHAT'RE YOU DOING BACK THERE?

TUNK

GARK--

PC ACK!

I THOUGHT A LITTLE *ADAMANTIUM* AND *MAGIC* WOULD GET THROUGH THAT THICK SKULL OF YOURS.

GUH...

IT'S ACTUALLY A *FEMUR.*

I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE I GOT IT A LITTLE LATER.

BUT FOR NOW...

D-DON'T...

THUNK

THUNK

THUNK

I CAN PROP HIM UP AGAIN IF YOU WANT TO TAKE A FEW SWINGS.

WH-WHO--?

WH-WHAT DID YOU DO?

THE SAME THING YOU CAME HERE TO DO. JUST BEAT YOU TO IT.

SORRY, I NEED TO GET CHANGED.

I--I SAW YOU AT MY WEDDING. YOU WERE HAMMERHEAD'S... DATE.

YES, BUT I WASN'T THE HIRED HAND.

THAT WAS THE *POOR SOUL* I PAID TO PLAY ME.

THE ONE JOEY WENT AND *BLEW UP.*

Y-YOU'RE *MADAME MASQUE--*

THAT'S RIGHT.

BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT. AND *HE* TOLD ME *EVERYTHING.*

EVERY *BLOOD FEUD* HE'D STOKED. EVERY *GANGLAND ALLIANCE* HE'D TURNED TO *HATRED.*

HE SET THEM ALL UP...

...AND NOW IT'S TIME TO **KNOCK THEM DOWN.**

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!

HE HAD *RANDY ROBERTSON* SHOT!

OH, CHILD...

YOU ARE ABOUT TO CARE *VERY, VERY* MUCH. LET ME TELL YOU *EXACTLY* WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN.

WORD WILL *SPREAD* THAT HAMMERHEAD IS *GONE*. NO ONE'S TERRITORY IS SAFE.

THE TREATIES HE HELD TOGETHER WILL *FALL*.

MOVES WILL BE MADE, SEEMINGLY OUT OF *FEAR*.

BUT DON'T BE FOOLED. IT IS *GREED*. OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPANSION.

AND *OPPORTUNITY* BRINGS *OPPORTUNISTS*.

YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO REMEMBER THE LAST *LAND GRAB*.

IT'S *THRILLING*, REALLY.

"WATCHING THE *SHARKS* COME OUT.

"...ANYONE WHO HAS A CLAIM... PAST OR PRESENT."

YOU...

...YOU WANT WAR.

SWEET LITTLE JANICE... DON'T YOU SEE?

"THEY *ALL* WANT WAR.

"I'M JUST GIVING IT TO THEM."

I'LL *GIVE* THEM SO MUCH THEY WON'T EVEN NOTICE WHEN I START TO *TAKE.*

McCARTHY MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

ROBBIE...

I...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

Y-YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE...

YOU SHOULD BE *OUT THERE.* THAT'S WHAT HE WAS FIGHTING FOR.

HE WAS SO CONVINCED YOU ALL DID MORE *GOOD* THAN *HARM.*

NOW I'M NOT SO SURE...

M-MAYBE I'M NOT EITHER...

NO...NO, YOU DON'T GET TO DO THAT.

HE GOT SHOT FOR WHAT HE BELIEVED IN. AND THAT'S A TRAGEDY.

BUT--AND I KNOW THIS BETTER THAN ANYONE--IT'S ALSO A *STORY.* A STORY HE MIGHT *DIE* FOR.

DON'T YOU DARE WASTE IT. YOU GET OUT THERE AND SHOW THEM HE WAS *RIGHT.*

GET OUT THERE AND CATCH THE PEOPLE WHO DID THIS.

UNDERSTOOD.

WHAT...?

"SOMEONE'S ATTACKING NEW YORK.

"NO. NOT SOMEONE.

"EVERYONE.

"IT'S WAR."

GOD HAVE MERCY...

I'M ONLY GOING TO SAY THIS ONCE.

ANYONE COMES AFTER HARLEM, I WILL DESTROY THEM.

YOU BETTER HURRY, DEAR. THEY'RE ALREADY COMING AFTER HARLEM.

AND I'LL BE THERE TO CLAIM WHAT'S LEFT.

WELL, THEN.

I'LL SEE YOU OUT THERE.

YES, YOU WILL.

SHOTGUN.

WE'RE GO.

--THAT'S WHAT I'M TELLING YOU. THERE IS NO "HOT ZONE." THE WHOLE CITY IS A "HOT ZONE."

MOBILIZE EVERYONE WE'VE GOT.

EVEN IF WE CALL IN EVERY OFFICER WE HAVE, WE DON'T HAVE THE *MANPOWER* TO--

SLAM

WE NEED TO TALK.

THEN TALK.

IT'S BAD OUT THERE. CIVILIANS ARE AT RISK. *ALL OF THEM.* WE NEED TO PUT THIS FIRE OUT *FAST.*

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I'M ABOUT TO DO A LOT OF *SUPER-HEROING,* AND I DON'T WANT ANY DISTRACTIONS.

I'LL KEEP THE POLICE OUT OF YOUR WAY.

NOT MY WAY...

...*OUR* WAY.

I NEED A *TEAM.*

PHONE
D HIGH
ENTIES.

PIC

NEW YORK CITY.
GANG WAR FIRST STRIKE plus SIX HOURS.
BOOM
KRAKKA KRAKKA
STAY CLOSE, JUNE!
WHERE ARE WE GOING?!
CENTRAL PARK! NO ONE'S FIGHTING OVER--
BOOM
--ARGH!
JOHN!
CAREFUL, FRIEND.
IT'S A REAL CIRCUS OUT HERE.

LUCKILY, *THE RINGMASTER* HAS ARRIVED.

D-DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S *HAPPENING?*

THE CRIME BOSSES OF NYC ARE...*NEGOTIATING* FOR TERRITORY. IT'S A *FIRE SALE* AND EVERYTHING MUST GO.

GET THESE TWO SOME WEAPONS.

W-WEAPONS?

CRIME-MASTER MADE AN AGREEMENT WITH A.I.M. TO PROTECT HIS *UPPER EAST SIDE* CONCERN. I PLAN TO RELIEVE HIM OF HIS PROPERTY, REGARDLESS.

I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND?

THIS IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY. YOU SEE, THIS IS A WAR, BUT I'M CURRENTLY WITHOUT AN *ARMY.*

...THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN.

LOCK AND LOAD, RINGMASTER.

WHO DO YOU WANT US TO KILL?

YOU'LL SEE THEM. THEY STICK OUT.

SAFETIES OFF!

BOOM
BOOM
GZAT!
GZAT!
GZAT!
BOOM
CHARGE!
KRAKKA KRAKKA
KRAKKA KRAKKA
KRAKKA KRAKKA
KRAKKA KRAKKA
KRAKKA KRAKKA
KRAKKA KRAKKA

THE UPPER EAST SIDE IS MINE, RINGMASTER.

SO YOU THINK.

FORTUNATELY, I HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THAT.

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY *GUN!* IT'S JUST THROWING *SPARKS!*

IT'S AN *IMAGIN-RAY!* YOU HAVE TO VISUALIZE YOUR PROJECTILES!

I JUST WANT TO SHOOT *BULLETS!*

IMAGIN-RAYS CAN'T DO *BULLETS!* THINK *PLASMA* OR *ACID.*

I DON'T WANT TO SHOOT ACID!

MY CIRCUS HAS FOUND ITS *CLOWN, CRIME-MASTER. YOU!*

OH, YEAH?

DOES *THIS* LOOK LIKE A *CLOWN CAR?*

THE *GYRO-TANKS* ARE *HERE!*

MOVE OVER!

WE'VE GOT TO PUT THIS FIGHT DOWN FAST...

GRMBLEGRMBLE

...THEY'VE GOT A LOT OF FIREPOWER DOWN THERE.

WE'RE NOT LOOKING TOO BAD *UP HERE.*

JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING.

THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? I'VE GOT PLACES TO BE.

COPY THAT. JEN, COULD YOU--?

TANK?

TANK.

I WAS *HOPING* YOU'D SAY TANK.

RIP

SEE YOU ON THE GROUND.

SPIDERS, RINGMASTER IS USING CIVILIANS. THAT MEANS--

WE DON'T HAVE TIME. GIVE ME THIRTY SECONDS.

OH, I WAS THINKING WE WOULD--

THERE SHE GOES.

--HURK!

GAR--

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ON *CRIME-MASTER.*

BET.

REMEMBER THERE ARE *CIVILIANS* OUT THERE.

THAT MEANS NO TIME TO BE *GENTLE!*

YOU HEARD THE MAN...

...GENTLE IS *OFF* THE *MENU.*

BUT FEEL FREE TO *FILL UP* ON *VENOM SABER.*

YOU HAVE FIVE SECONDS TO STOP THIS.

YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE YOUR RESEARCH, MY DEAR...

...YOU ARE ONLY ADDING TO MY RANKS.

YOU ARE MY SOLDIER NOW.

YOUR MIND IS *UNDISCIPLINED.* A CHILD SCREAMING THROUGH A *MEGAPHONE.*

I'VE SPENT A *LIFETIME* TRAINING MINE.

S-STOP. *STOP!*

NO.

KRAK

--Gark!

THIS WAR HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!

I KNOW. I'M JUST THE *DISTRACTION.*

WHA--?

KRAK

SORRY, WE'RE IN A HURRY.

UPPER EAST SIDE HOT ZONE IS COLD, LUKE.

GOT TWO *BIG FISH* AND A BUNCH OF *A.I.M. AGENTS* WHO NEED PROCESSING.

GRACIE MANSION.

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO, SPIDER-MAN.

BUT WE'RE STRETCHED THIN HERE.

MR. NEGATIVE IS MOVING ON LADY YULAN IN THE LOWER EAST SIDE, DIAMONDBACK IS MAKING A PLAY FOR *DOWNTOWN* WITH *HYDRA'S* HELP, AND HOBGOBLIN IS MAKING NOISE IN BROOKLYN...

AND--I'M NOT MAKING THIS UP--WE THINK THE COMMOTION HAS STIRRED UP THE *MONSTER METROPOLIS* UNDER *MURRAY HILL.*

DON'T FORGET HELL'S KITCHEN.

OH YEAH. HELL'S KITCHEN IS SMOLDERING, AND I DON'T KNOW WHO I CAN TRUST WITH THE HEAT ACTIVE THERE.

HELL'S KITCHEN IS NO PLACE FOR AMATEURS.

HOW'D YOU HEAR THAT?

I'LL HANDLE IT...

...ALONE.

YEP, GO.

THAT'S JUST WHAT I WAS GONNA SUGGEST.

AS EFFECTIVE AS WE ARE TOGETHER... DAREDEVIL MIGHT HAVE THE RIGHT IDEA.

I'M HEADING DOWNTOWN. LIKE I TOLD YOU--DIAMONDBACK'S MINE. HE MADE A BIG MISTAKE GETTING INTO BED WITH HYDRA.

GO. WE CAN PUT OUT MORE FIRES IF WE SPLIT UP.

BUT SOMETHING BIG IS HAPPENING HERE. SOMETHING I CAN'T SEE YET. I MIGHT NEED HELP.

I'LL HURRY.

CALL IF YOU NEED ME.

SPEAKING OF...

IF THE *HOBGOBLIN* IS IN BROOKLYN, THAT'S WHERE I NEED TO BE TOO.

CAREFUL. KINGSLEY IS NO JOKE.

I TOLD YOU...

...I'VE BEEN DOING JUST FINE WITHOUT YOU.

COOL SWORD.

CAN YOU--?

YEAH.

NO.

WHERE'S THAT LEAVE US?

YOU HEARD OF *MONSTER METROPOLIS?* BUNCH OF CREATURES LIVING UNDER THE CITY?

WE'RE FIGHTING MONSTERS? *SIGH* I HAVE A LAW DEGREE, YOU KNOW.

DO YOU? I DON'T THINK YOU'VE MENTIONED THAT...

...IN THE LAST FIVE MINUTES.

FUNNY. WE'LL SEE WHO'S LAUGHING WHEN YOU GET MY BILL.

HARLEM.

IT'S OVER, RABBIT!

TOMBSTONE'S NOT HERE TO PROTECT HIS TERRITORY...

...OR YOU!

SHUT THE #$%& UP! LONNIE DOESN'T PROTECT US! WE PROTECT--

--PROTECT HIM--

DAMMIT, KAREEM! MY UMBRELLA'S JAMMED!

I TOLD YOU MARIAH WAS COMING!

WHY COULDN'T YOU JUST BRING A GUN?

LIKE A PEASANT?!

#$%& IT! I'LL USE MY HANDS.

NIGHT OF THE LEPUS, MOTHER--

BOOM!

HERE COMES TROUBLE.

MARIAH, MARIAH.

YOU MUST HAVE TAKEN A WRONG TURN. THIS WAS MY DAD'S TERRITORY.

WHICH MEANS IT'S NOW MY TERRITORY.

WHICH MEANS I'VE GOT TO TAKE YOU APART.

SLRCH!

KRAK!

--GARK--

THOK!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME! YOU'RE NOT YOUR FATHER, *JANICE!*

WHEN I'M WORKING, I GO BY *THE BEETLE.*

AND, *NO*, I'M *NOT* MY *FATHER.*

MY FATHER IS IN THE HOSPITAL. I DON'T KNOW WHO PUT HIM IN THERE, BUT I KNOW IT WAS *ONE* OF *YOU.*

AND I WANT ALL OF YOU TO KNOW THERE WON'T BE AN *INCH* TO GAIN FROM HIS INJURIES.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

Y-YES. I'LL TELL 'EM.

NO...

...YOU'LL SHOW 'EM.

WAIT--!

AAAAAHHH!

DID JANICE JUST--?

NAH, SHE'LL SURVIVE...

SMA-CRUNCH!

AIEEEEEEEEEEEE!

TOLD YA.

HARLEM HOSPITAL CENTER.

I'VE SEEN IT ALL... THE JOB I'VE HAD.

ALL THIS FIGHTING...THE CITY WILL SURVIVE.

BUT YOUR MOTHER, RANDY...I DON'T KNOW IF SHE WANTS TO BE HERE IF YOU...

...IF YOU DON'T COME BACK.

SO I'M DONE MESSING AROUND, SON. YOU COME BACK TO US.

N-NOW. YOU HEAR ME?

FOR... FOR YOUR MOTHER.

NOT THE FACE I EXPECTED TO SEE WHEN I WOKE UP.

THEY GOT YOUR BOY TOO, *HUH?*

WHAT ABOUT JANICE?

NOT A SCRATCH ON HER. LOOKS LIKE YOU MADE A FULL RECOVERY TOO.

WHY IS IT THE DIRTBAGS ALWAYS COME OUT OF IT SMELLING LIKE A ROSE?

CAREFUL.

SOMEBODY HURT YOUR KID-- I'LL BREAK 'IM IN HALF. KEEP TALKIN' LIKE THAT, MAYBE I DO YOU TOO.

AND MAYBE I RUN YOU THROUGH WITH A PITCHFORK AGAIN.

HEH.

WE HAD SOME GOOD TIMES, DIDN'T WE?

WHERE AM I?

MCCARTHY MEDICAL. I WANTED YOU TO SEE THE MESS YOUR "*BUSINESS*" CAUSED WHEN YOU WOKE UP.

COULD COST ME MY SON. AND IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO COST YOU YOUR DAUGHTER.

I'M NOT FOLLOWING YOU, ROBERTSON.

THE HIT ON YOU? THAT WAS SOMEBODY LIGHTING THE FUSE.

LAST NIGHT, THE BOMB WENT OFF.

AND THE ONLY REASON I DIDN'T STEP ON YOUR AIR HOSE WAS BECAUSE I THINK YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP.

HELP WHAT?

I'M DONE TALKING. LOOK OUT THE WINDOW.

DAMN.

THE BASTARDS DID IT.

ROBBIE, I'M GONNA NEED MY PANTS.

LONNIE...

...GET YOUR OWN DAMN PANTS.

MURRAY HILL!

BRING US THIS MURRAY!

SO THAT WE MAY MURDER HIM AND CLAIM HIS *HILL* FOR...

Monster Metropolis!

I'M INFORMING YOU, AS AN APPOINTED DEPUTY OF THE *MAYOR'S OFFICE*, THAT *MURRAY HILL* EXISTS UNDER THE DOMAIN OF *NEW YORK CITY*, SUBJECT TO ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS THEREIN.

MONSTER METROPOLIS IS UNRECOGNIZED BY *ANY* LEGAL BODY, AND ANY FURTHER VIOLENCE WILL BE MET WITH FORCE.

THAT'S *LAWYER TALK* FOR *GET YOUR BUTTS BACK UNDERGROUND BEFORE THIS GETS UGLY!*

ARE YOU STANDING *BEHIND* ME?

NO.

YOU'RE STANDING *BEHIND* ME.

I AM *NOT*. I WAS *RESPECTFULLY* LETTING YOU SPEAK!

DIEEEEE!

RRRR

ONE UNIFIED FRONT COMING UP!

ATTA-BOY.

THEY'RE LOST IN THE SMOKE...

...WITH NO IDEA HOW TO FIND THE FIRE.

LET THEM TIRE THEMSELVES OUT.

I NEED YOU IN MIDTOWN.

COPY THAT.

I SHOULD TELL YOU... TOMBSTONE IS AWAKE.

OH YEAH?

WHEN DO I GET TO FIX THAT?

AFTER THE LAND RUSH.

UNTIL THEN...

WE TAKE EVERYTHING WE CAN.

ON MY WAY.

MARIAH IS OFF THE TABLE.

SPANISH HARLEM IS OURS.

THE UPPER EAST SIDE IS SITTING THERE WAITING TO BE TAKEN. SPIDER-MAN SAW TO THAT.

BUT FIRST... I WANT SUGAR HILL. WHICH MEANS I WANT EVERYTHING AROUND SUGAR HILL.

DIAMONDBACK'S TERRITORY.

HE BROUGHT HYDRA DRUGS THROUGH OUR DOCKS SO HE COULD EXPAND INTO THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT.

DON'T LIKE THAT HE TRESPASSED. DO LIKE THAT HE'S SPREAD THIN.

WE MOVE NOW, WE CAN UNIFY HARLEM.

crnch crnch

YOUR POPS WILL BE OKAY WITH MARIAH. SHE MOVED FIRST AND SHE'S STILL BREATHING.

HIM AND DIAMONDBACK... THEY DREW UP THOSE TERRITORIES TOGETHER.

THAT'S TRUE, RABBIT...

...TOO BAD NEITHER OF THEM ARE HERE.

NOT QUITE, JANICE.

I'M HOME.

DAD!

YOU'RE OKAY?!

A LITTLE WORSE FOR WEAR, BUT I COULDN'T STAY IN BED FOR THIS.

WHERE WE AT?

I GOT MARIAH, DAD. SPANISH HARLEM IS OURS.

GOT? WHAT YOU MEAN?

MARIAH TRIED TO TAKE THE *DOCKS*, BUT *KAREEM* AND I HELD THEM OFF.

THEN JANICE DROPPED HER FROM TWENTY FEET UP.

Hrmm.

YOU DID WHAT YOU HAD TO DO.

BUT THAT'S A BIG AREA TO DEFEND. WE'VE GOTTA SHORE UP OUR BORDERS. RIDE THIS OUT.

NO.

NO?

WE'RE NOT RIDING THIS OUT. WE'RE TAKING IT ALL THE WAY.

I WANT HARLEM. *ALL OF IT.*

YOU'RE NOT IN CHARGE.

I HAVE BEEN.

HAD TO BE.

AND I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF MAKING PLAYS. PLAYS I HAVE TO FINISH.

YOU WANT TO RUN MY TERRITORY?

YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT I DID TO GET WHERE I AM?

NO. YOU ALWAYS KEPT THAT FROM ME.

BUT WHATEVER IT IS, YOU HAVE THE STOMACH TO DO IT TO YOUR OWN DAUGHTER?

NO.

GLAD YOU'RE OKAY, DAD.

TRY TO STAY OFF YOUR FEET.

B-BOSS?

GO ON.

TAKE CARE OF HER.

BOOM

KRAKKA KRAKKA

...Guh.

WEEYOOOO WEEEEEYOOOO

SSP

...Hng.

BOOM

CLNK

Helppp...

...meee...

KRAKKA KRAKKA

Hellp me...

...plsss...

...Guh...

THOK

SNAP

SNAP

Hnnng!

THOK

Guh...

...Kill you...

THOK

HMMM?

...Kill you...

HA.

HA HA.

SLLLRRRCH

M-made man...

They'll c-come for you...

WHO'S THAT?

THEM?

NO...

DON'T WORRY. WE HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD TO PLAY.

NOOOO!

MURRAY HILL IS NEUTRALIZED, LUKE. WE'RE HEADING TO MIDTOWN.

THAT COULD GET DICEY...

YOU GONNA TELL HIM ABOUT STANDING BEHIND ME?

SHHHH! I'M ON THE PHONE!

THAT'S THE BIGGEST MESS. THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING.

NO PARKING

HOW ABOUT HOW MANY MONSTERS WE EACH TOOK DOWN?

IT WAS PRACTICALLY THE SAME NUMBER!

IF YOU ADD A ZERO TO MINE.

YEP. THAT'S HER. SHE'S STILL HERE!

WE'RE DOING GREAT.

SPIDER-MAN?

NOT NOW!

SPIDER-MAN!

WHAT?!

HIM.

OH NO.

LUKE, I'LL CALL YOU BACK. WE'VE GOT TROUBLE.

NO, YOU DON'T.

THEY DO.

WE'RE GOING TO TAKE DOWN SOME *CRIME* ***BOSSES*** TOGETHER.

AGAIN.

YOU'VE TEAMED UP BEFORE?

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.

JRJR
S. Hanna
MENDO

WEST VILLAGE.

THE MEN ARE READY, BOSS.

LET 'EM WAIT, DIGGER.

I'VE GOTTA PUT MY FACE ON.

YOU SURE YOU WANNA DO THIS? YOU JUST USED YOUR BIG, GREEN *GET-OUT-OF-JAIL-FREE CARD...ME.*

THERE'S GONNA BE A LOT OF *HEAT* ON YOU.

THE CITY'S ON *FIRE*, DIGGER. THE HEAT'S ON *EVERYONE.*

AND I WANNA BE THERE TO DUMP *GASOLINE* AT *TOMBSTONE'S* FEET.

EVERYTHING WE WERE FIGHTING FOR IN OUR FIRST SKIRMISH... EVERYTHING HE CHEATED ME OUT OF...I'M GONNA *TAKE BACK.*

WAY BACK AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS VOLUME IN **ASM #895-899.** --NL

IT'S HIS *DAUGHTER* RUNNING HIS TERRITORY NOW.

Snap

THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT SO PERFECT.

HE'S GONNA LOSE HER *FIRST.*

MEATPACKING DISTRICT.

BRO, YOU *SURE* WE CAN TAKE THESE BROS?

YOU THINK I CALL ENTIRE *TRACKSUIT MAFIA* FOR FUN? *SHUT MOUTH* FOR ONE SECOND AND *OPEN EYES*, BRO. THEY STILL THERE?

OH, YES, BRO.

THE *INNER DEMON* BROS WANT EVERYTHING BELOW *HOUSTON*. THEY WILL LEAVE *NOTHING* FOR US IF WE LET THEM.

WE GONNA BURN THIS PLACE TO THE GROUND WITH THEM IN IT.

AFRAID I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT.

SORRY YOU GOT ALL DRESSED UP.

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANNA CALL IT.

YOU ARE VERY FAR FROM HARLEM, BRO. YOU NOT HEAR THERE'S A WAR ON?

YOU NOT HEAR I MADE A TREATY?

PARTY'S OVER, BOYS.

NO WAY...

SORRY YOU GOT ALL DRESSED UP.

TOMBSTONE ALREADY SAID THAT.

WHAT? *REALLY?*

YEP.

CAN'T HAVE BEEN THAT CLEVER, THEN.

THAT MOVE DON'T EXACTLY MAKE *YOU* LOOK *SMART.*

SHOW ME HOW IT'S DONE, *PROFESSOR.*

YOU PAYIN' ATTENTION?!

SORRY, GUYS. I CAN'T LISTEN TO THOSE TWO MUCH LONGER--

BLAM BLAM BLAM

--HAVE TO *WRAP THIS UP!*

CRASH

THAT'S THAT. NO CHANCE THEY CAN REGROUP BEFORE THIS IS OVER.

YEAH, BUT WE SPOOKED THE *INNER DEMONS.* GONNA TAKE US A WHILE TO TRACK THEM DOWN.

NO IT WON'T.

'CUZ WE'RE NOT GONNA.

WHAT? *WHY?*

THEY'RE MOVING ON LADY YULAN'S *VAMPIRES* IN THE EAST VILLAGE. WE TAKE THEM OUT AND SHE'LL OVERRUN *DOWN-TOWN.*

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO FIGHT EVERY BATTLE.

HMMM...

...I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE.

YOU WANNA END THIS *FAST,* YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO WHAT I SAY. THIS IS *MY* WORLD. I SEE *ALL* THE PLAYS.

THAT'S WHY YOU *NEED* ME...

DOWNTOWN.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS...

YOU STILL THINK YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO *TEACH* ME? SOME WISDOM TO IMPART?

YOU'RE ONLY PROVING YOU HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER ME.

I WAS YOUR WEAPON FOR SO MANY YEARS, BUT YOU LACKED THE SKILL TO WIELD ME.

I WAS CAST ASIDE.

LOOKED OVER.

BY MORNING I'LL HAVE HALF THE CITY. *ALL OF IT* BY TOMORROW NIGHT. AND YOU STILL DON'T *SEE* ME.

...Guh...

YOU'VE BEEN AT THE TOP FOR TOO LONG. IT'S *BLINDED* YOU.

I'VE BEEN IN THE *GUTTERS.* WITH MY BOOTS ON THE GROUND...

CRNCH!

AAAHHH!

...I SEE EVERYTHING.

...Guh.

HMM...

GO AHEAD.

CALL THEM.

ALL OF THEM.

HARLEM.

I'M TELLING YOU, DIAMONDBACK'S GUYS ARE *DUG IN*...

...THEY'RE NOT GOING *ANYWHERE* WITHOUT A FIGHT, JANICE.

THEN THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THEY'LL GET.

WE GOT THE FIREPOWER FOR THAT? TROOPS ARE WORRIED, BOSS...

THAT'S BECAUSE DIAMONDBACK'S MEN ARE *LOYAL*. THEY'RE NOT GOING TO ROLL OVER UNLESS WE BREAK THEIR SPIRIT.

HOW DO WE DO THAT?

NOT "WE." *ME.*

I HAVE TO PUT THE FEAR OF GOD INTO THEM.

SHOW THEM WE MEAN BUSINESS.

HOW DO I LOOK?

LIKE YOU *MEAN BUSINESS.*

IS THIS THE TIME TO BE POURING YOURSELF A DRINK?

AFRAID SO.

JUST GOT WORD. *FISK* IS BACK IN TOWN.

THE *ROSE?* THEN WHAT ARE WE DOING UP HERE?!

I'VE GOT WORD HE'S COMING TO *ME.*

OH. THANKS.

WAIT. YOU... YOU WANT ME TO PROTECT *YOU,* IS THAT IT? YOUR *TERRITORY? NO WAY!*

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FOOL ME TWICE, *LINCOLN.*

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I GAVE UP TONIGHT, DO YOU?

THERE'VE BEEN WHISPERS EVER SINCE OUR UNOFFICIAL "TEAM-UP" THAT YOU AND ME WERE WORKING TOGETHER. YOU THOUGHT IT WAS A CUTE WAY TO KEEP ME IN LINE.

AND IT *WAS.* I'LL GIVE YOU THAT. BUT GOING OUT WITH YOU TONIGHT, FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE...NO BOSS IN THE TRI-STATE AREA IS GONNA WORK WITH ME AGAIN.

I'VE GOT A MARK ON MY HEAD. I'M *DONE*. THERE'S NO TERRITORY WAITING FOR ME AFTER THIS.

IT'S MY LAST RIDE.

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?

THIS IS GREAT, BY THE WAY.

I WANT TO STOP THIS WAR BEFORE MY DAUGHTER GETS HURT. THAT MEANS DEALING WITH FISK.

HOW LONG ARE WE SUPPOSED TO WAIT?

UNTIL HE GETS HERE.

MOVE! HE'S IN HERE!

ANYONE WHO'S HEAD AIN'T *FLAT* GETS A BULLET, GOT IT?

AH, THE HAMMERHEAD CREW. SUCH A LONG, STORIED MAGGIA TRADITION...

...OF *FAILURE.*

I'M GONNA ASK YOU *ONCE* IF YOU GOT THE BOSS.

I GUESS THAT BEGS THE QUESTION...

...*WHO* IS THE *BOSS?*

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

LOOK ALIVE, GENTLEMEN.

YOU'RE UP.

SHE GOT *NEFARIA* AND *SILVERMANE*?!

TH-THOSE MEN HAVE LED THE *MAGGIA* FOR DECADES, MASQUE!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS!

I CAN'T?

SNAP

NOOO!

CRACK

THUMP

YOU'RE USED TO THE OLD LEADERS. I *UNDERSTAND* THAT.

YOU'VE TAKEN AN OATH TO BOW BEFORE THEM. FOLLOW THEIR ORDERS.

NO MATTER WHAT THEY ARE.

SO...

SNNPH MADAME MASQUE LEADS THE MAGGIA NOW.

GOOD BOYS.

SUGAR HILL.

Huff huff...

CALL DIAMONDBACK! WE'VE GOT COMPANY!

MORE COMPANY?! WE CAN'T--

BOOM

Hurk!

Garr!

TELL YOUR MEN, YOU HAVE A NEW BOSS.

I'M SORRY, I CAN'T *DO* THAT.

HE GOT HERE FIRST...

BZZZ BZZZ

HE'S HERE.

WHO. IS. HE?

BE READY FOR ANYTHING. THE ROSE GOT BEAT PRETTY BAD LAST TIME.

BY WHO?

...ME.

FISK.

FISK.

YOU'RE TRESPASSING...

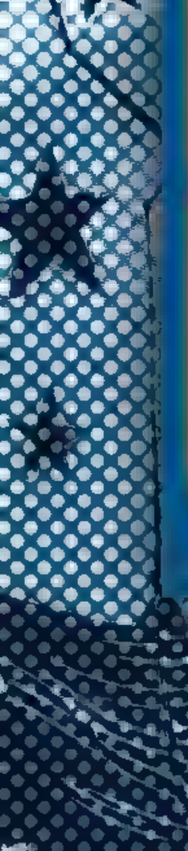
...ON MY PROPERTY.

THAT'S NOT THE ROSE.

NEVER SAID IT WAS.

HEY, DOLLS.

JRJR
S. Hanna
MENDEZ



G

THERE'S A *GANG WAR* GOING ON.

THE CITY'S ON FIRE.

TOMBSTONE IS HELPING ME PUT IT OUT. HE KNOWS THIS WORLD.

AND HE'S MADE ONE THING ***CLEAR.*** WHEN...

THE KINGPIN.

...WANTS TO TALK, YOU ***LISTEN.***

PLEASE, LONNIE. CALL ME ***WILSON.***

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, WILSON.

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED.

I'M HERE BECAUSE MY SON HAS BEEN DRAWN INTO YOUR WAR.

HE'S MAKING A PLAY FOR TERRITORY... AND REVENGE.

IF THE ROSE WANTS REVENGE, YOU CAN TELL HIM I'M RIGHT HERE.

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE. HE'S GOING AFTER YOUR FAMILY.

HE IS HIS FATHER'S SON, AFTER ALL.

ME?

IS SHE LOOKING AT ME?

JANICE? I'D PICK HER TO WIN THAT FIGHT *ALL DAY.*

THAT'S WHY I'VE SENT AN ARMY OF HELLFIRE TROOPS TO MAKE SURE THIS GOES MY WAY.

I'VE INVESTED A LOT OF TIME AND ENERGY IN THE BOY. I CAN'T LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE.

Mwah.

ME?

I CAN'T TELL.

SO YOU CAME HERE TO ASK ME TO STAY OUT OF IT.

GONNA TAKE A LOT MORE THAN *ASKIN'.*

THESE THINGS TAKE WHAT THEY *TAKE*, DON'T THEY?

NO ONE LEAVES UNTIL THE DEED IS DONE.

WHO IS SHE *POINTING* AT?

I DON'T KNOW. SHE'S FREAKING ME OUT.

HEE HEE. YOU'RE CUTE.

DAMMIT, TYPHOID!!! HAVE SOME RESPECT!

=snicker!=

THANK YOU! THAT WAS...

CONFUSING.

WHY DO YOU ACT LIKE THIS?!

BECAUSE IT MAKES YOU CRAZY.

AND YOU FIGHT SO GOOD WHEN YOU'RE *CRAZY.*

HERE HE COMES.

CALL OFF YOUR MEN, FISK.

COME MAKE ME, LINCOLN!

GYARRRGHH!!!

DON'T YOU GUYS MOP THE FLOORS AT THE HELLFIRE CLUB?

HOPE YOU WASHED YOUR HANDS!

THIS IS CUTE, BUT I HAVE TO LEVEL WITH YOU...

...YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE MEN.

HA. THAT'S RARELY THE ANSWER.

AIEEEEE!

BURN FOR ME!

HARLEM'S *MINE*, FISK. YOU WANT IT, YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME.

GOING THROUGH YOU IS THE POINT, *LINCOLN.*

I WANNA BE ABLE TO TELL YOUR POPS HOW *SCARED* YOU WERE WHEN *DIGGER* TORE YOU APART.

I DON'T DRESS LIKE THIS TO *GET* SCARED, FISK.

IF *POOR MAN'S BRUCE BANNER* THERE IS TOO DUMB TO KNOW HE'S OUTNUMBERED, THAT'S HIS PROBLEM.

DUMB?!

LET US AT 'ER, BOSS!

GO! WHY DO YOU THINK I *BROUGHT* YOU?!

EVERYBODY BETTER WATCH HOW THEY'RE TALKING TO US!

CRASH

TOO CLOSE, FISK.

TOO...

KRAK

...CLOSE!

CRNCH

YOUR HEART'S IN IT.

GOOD!

CRACK!

WHY DID I GET STUCK WITH THE GRUNTS?!

IT'S OKAY, BABY. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.

AH AH AH AH!

STAY STILL!

YOU'RE LUCKY NEW YORK HAS GOOD SAMARITAN LAWS.

WHOOSH

GAAAAH!

OW! OW!

YEAH, I'M NOT TOO HAPPY ABOUT IT EITHER.

WHAP WHAP WHAP

BUZZ-KILL!

OKAY, I'M OFFICIALLY OVER YOU.

WATCH THE SWORD, JEN!

YES, "JEN." GET A GOOD LOOK.

NICE TRY.

FIRST TIME FIGHTING A GAMMA-IRRADIATED--?

ADAMANTIUM-DIPPED EDGES. IT WAS A GIFT.

PAYS TO HAVE YOUR ANNIVERSARY ON *KRAKOA*.

OW?

SLOW DOWN, UGLY.

YOU DON'T GET TO FIGHT JUST *ONE* OF US.

FINE BY ME!

COME HERE!

EASY, JERK!

HEY!

YOU JUST START *GRABBING APPENDAGES?!*

HOW *DARE* YOU?!

BU--

I THOUGHT WE WERE FIGHTING!

WE ARE NOW, #$%&#%#$%&!

DIE!

SSHHHZZTRRKK

GAAAAHHH!

SORRY, LADIES, WE'RE ALREADY DEAD!

OOF!

WATCH IT!

ALL YOU DID WAS PUT US IN A BAD MOOD!

AAAAH!

BUT DON'T THINK WE FORGOT ABOUT YOU!

WHACK!

WHA--?

CRASH

ARGH!

I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOUR DAD.

BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM

YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE THAN BULLETS.

I SEE.

CRACK

NOT ANYMORE.

DOWNTOWN IS STILL A TOSS-UP BETWEEN *SHANG-CHI* AND *MR. NEGATIVE*... THOUGH I COULD SEE *LADY YULAN SURPRISING US.*

I'VE CONSOLIDATED CRIME-MASTER'S TERRITORY, BUT TOMBSTONE'S DAUGHTER IS UP AGAINST THE ROSE FOR CONTROL OF EVERYTHING NORTH OF CENTRAL PARK...

EXCUSE ME...

ARE YOU USING MY *HEAD* AS A *PAPER-WEIGHT?!*

YES.

LINCOLN HAS AN ARMY AND THE STREET CRED TO LEAD.

SHE GETS THE REST OF HARLEM AND SHE'S GONNA BE A PROBLEM.

SHE'S *NOT* GETTING HARLEM.

THE KINGPIN'S BACK IN TOWN. HE'S NOT GOING TO LET HIS SON GET KILLED.

FAIR OR NOT, THE ROSE IS GOING TO WIN. IT'S GOING TO BE HOUSE OF FISK VERSUS HOUSE OF NEFARIA.

COME, FATHER.

I MAY HAVE A USE FOR YOU YET.

IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE, LONNIE?

COME ON! WE USED TO BE MUSCLE!

HAVE WE GONE SOFT?!

CRAK

DO WE STILL HAVE IT?!

CRAK

SHOW ME!

KRAK

YES!

CRNCH

NOW WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE!

CRNCH

THAT'S ENOUGH!

THWIP

OOPS, I STEPPED ON A *RIB.*

CRACK

GAAAH!

I'VE GOT THIS.

HAVE YOU TOLD *YOUR* TEETH?

THAT'S ENOUGH, BOY...

...THE *GROWN-UPS* ARE TALKING.

GAAAAH!

GYARRRGHHH!

AH, YOUR FRIEND LOOKS A LITTLE NOT ON FIRE.

¡QUEMAR!

GAAAAH!

HOLD ON, SPIDEY!

GOT YOU.

JEN, LOOK OUT!

WHAT--?

Hnnng.

BEFORE?

I WAS FLIRTING WITH SPIDER-MAN, YOU UGLY #$%&.

KRAK!

AAAAAH!

YEAH, WELL, YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE THAN *MAKEUP* TOMORROW...

...AND I'LL HEAL IN A *FEW SECONDS.*

SIGH

HNNF!

WOLVERINE WAS RIGHT... YOU GUYS ARE THE *WORST!*

CRACK

THUD

Guh--

SRACK

OOF--

THUD

T-TAKE IT *EASY,* SUGAR!

SEE, THAT'S WHY YOU'RE IN TROUBLE...

I AM.

ALL RIGHT, GIRLS. FINISH THIS UP, OR I'M GONNA HAVE TO DO IT MYSELF.

YOU GOTTA UNDERSTAND, FISK.

CRACK

GARK--

I DON'T GIVE A #$%& WHO YOUR DAD IS.

I'M TAKING WHAT'S MINE.

THOK

AND I'M TAKING IT--

WHAT'S THAT?

RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE

RASH

LIGHT 'EM UP!

DNC DNC DINGALING LING

DNC DNC DINGALING LING

SOMEONE GETTING A CALL.

HA HAHAHA.

THAT'S *GOOD NEWS* IS WHAT THAT IS.

HA AHAHAHA!

GOOD NEWS?

IF...IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

I'VE GOT TO TAKE THIS.

HELLO?

I SEE.

IT'S OVER.

TH

THANK YOU.

JR
JR
S. Hanna

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "IT'S OVER"?

WHAT DID YOU *DO*, FISK?

I SAW TO IT THAT MY SON'S BATTLE WITH THE BEETLE CAME TO ITS ONLY ACCEPTABLE CONCLUSION...

...*MINE.*

YOU TELL ME YOU HAD MY DAUGHTER KILLED WITH A *SMIRK ON YOUR FACE?*

I'M GONNA TEAR YOUR THROAT OUT--

TOMBSTONE. STOP.

HE'S BEING EVASIVE. VAGUE. TAKE IT FROM A LAWYER...

...THERE'S SOMETHING HE'S NOT TELLING US.

BOGEY IS NEUTRALIZED...

...LET'S WRAP THIS UP.

WHAT ARE YOU *DOING?!*

Y-YOU WORK FOR MY *FATHER!*

YES, WE DO. YOU'RE COMING WITH US.

G-GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO KILL HER!

TAKE THIS.

HELLO?

JANICE?

DAD?

YOU OKAY?

YES.

I--I THINK THE ROSE IS OFF THE BOARD. DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS?

NO, HONEY. BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY. I'VE GOT TO GO.

IF YOU'RE SATISFIED, I'LL BE ON MY WAY.

Y-YOU'RE JUST GOING TO *LEAVE?*

I HAVE A NEW LIFE NOW. A WIFE. SONS.

THESE ***WARS***... YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO GIVE UP ***EVERYTHING.***

I NO LONGER AM.

THE ***FISKS*** ARE SITTING THIS OUT.

WHY--

--IN THE NAME OF GOD--

--DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY THAT?

I'LL ADMIT, THE MISSUS AND I HAVE BEEN *SQUABBLING* OVER SOME...

...*MINOR INDISCRETIONS.*

MIXING IT UP LIKE OLD TIMES ALLOWED ME TO *BURN OFF SOME STEAM.*

BOOP.

HEE HEE!

I'VE ALWAYS RESPECTED YOU, LONNIE. IF YOU RESPECT ME, LISTEN TO WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY.

THIS WAS NOT AN ATTACK ON NEW YORK CITY. IT WAS AN ATTACK ON *THE MAGGIA.*

MADAME MASQUE HAS CLAIMED THEIR POWER. *ALL OF IT.*

BE CAREFUL.

I THOUGHT MADAME MASQUE WAS *DEAD.*

"JUST WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?"

SCORPIA'S TAIL IS FRIED. I'M MISSING A FEW LIMBS.

WE'RE ON THE ROPES.

LADY OCTOPUS'S RIGHT, BEETLE.

WE NEED SOME TIME TO LICK OUR WOUNDS.

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE, ELECTRO?

WE HAVE HARLEM. THE TERRITORY. THE TROOPS. EVERYTHING ABOVE THE PARK IS *OURS.*

NOT EVEN MY DAD COULD DO THAT.

WHAT ABOUT MASQUE?

SHE WANTS *EVERYTHING,* RABBIT.

IT MIGHT TAKE HER A BIT LONGER TO SHORE UP DOWNTOWN, BUT SHE'LL COME FOR US.

WE'RE GONNA NEED EVERYTHING WE GOT. EVERY GANG. EVERY WEAPON--

:Kaff:

HUUU

DOWNTOWN.

YOU'RE HERE TO TELL ME *HARLEM* HAS BEEN WON.

YES.

THIS WILL BE EASIER THAN I THOUGHT.

GET ME A MEETING WITH *FISK*.

FISK DIDN'T WIN.

...

I SEE.

GHHHHHHH

THE BEETLE HAS CONSOLIDATED EVERYTHING ABOVE 110TH. I TOLD YOU SHE WAS DANGEROUS.

THIS IS WHY *THE AGENCY* WAS WORRIED ABOUT HER. WHY MY BOSSES HAD HER PROFILED.

CAREFUL, SHOTGUN.

FORMER BOSSES.

YES. OF COURSE. I--I...

Y-YOU'RE *MADAME MASQUE.* I WAS SENT TO-- TO *KILL* YOU--

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

MY, YOU *NEVER* STOP FIGHTING, DO YOU?

WHAT A *STRONG* MIND YOU HAVE.

KALLAH-TI-MAKA!

Kalla... ti... maaah...

STAND STILL.

YOUR *SIGIL* IS FADING.

DO YOU SEE WHY THEY WON'T BEAT ME? I'VE WALKED IN THE WORLDS OF TECHNOLOGY *AND* MAGIC.

AND MASTERED THEM *BOTH.*

THE LINCOLN GIRL WILL LEARN THE SAME THING *YOU* LEARNED, WHEN YOU CAME TO *END* ME.

THE ONLY ENEMIES I LEAVE BREATHING...

...ARE THOSE WHO *SERVE MY PURPOSE.*

UPPER EAST SIDE.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MADAME MASQUE?

I KNOW I'VE BEEN HEARING THAT NAME A LOT LATELY, MISTER MAYOR. YOU?

INTEL SAYS SHE'S TALKING TO THE A.I.M. AGENTS WHO DIDN'T GET GOT WHEN YOU TOOK DOWN CRIME-MASTER.

SHE'S BEEN SPOTTED RECENTLY IN *HELL'S KITCHEN*, AND BEFORE THAT, SHE WAS CIRCLING BOTH THE *FINANCIAL DISTRICT* AND *THE LOWER EAST SIDE* LIKE A VULTURE.

HOPE YOU HAVE A PLAN TO KEEP HARLEM.

WE'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT, LUKE. ANY CHANCE YOU CAN JOIN US?

SORRY, SPIDEY.

I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL AT THE OFFICE.

HARLEM.

KAREEM SAYS HE PICKED UP SOME HYDRA STRAGGLERS WHO FLED NORTH. LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET THE LOCATION OF THEIR *DEPOTS.*

WE CAN'T LET *ALL* THEIR FIREPOWER GO TO...

WHAT IS HYDRA FLEEING FROM? BETTER READ **SPIDER-WOMAN!** --NL

...MADAME MASQUE.

I LIKE YOUR MAPS.

196
145
144
143
2
WEST END AVE
AMSTERDAM AVE
COLUMBUS AVE

VERY... OPTIMISTIC.

GIVE ME A MINUTE, LADIES.

S-SURE, BOSS. I'LL GO HANDLE THAT BUSINESS IN THE BRONX.

THAT BUSINESS IN THE BRONX IS IN **JACKPOT #1!** --NL

HAVE A SEAT.

YOU'RE IN MY SPOT.

HARLEM BELONGS TO ME NOW.

I'D SAY THAT'S VERY MUCH UP FOR DEBATE.

IS THAT WHY YOU'RE HERE?

I THOUGHT WE COULD TALK, YES.

SAY YOUR PIECE.

WHAT YOU HAVE GAINED HERE, I WILL *TAKE.* BECAUSE OF ONE SIMPLE FACT:

NO MATTER HOW BADLY YOU WANT TO KEEP YOUR FATHER'S TERRITORY...

...I WANT IT *MORE.*

RIVERSIDE DR.

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

I'M A REAL *DADDY'S* GIRL.

Hmmm...

MY FATHER SENT ME AWAY WHEN I WAS BORN. TO PROTECT ME FROM THE *MAGGIA,* HE CLAIMED.

MORE LIKELY BECAUSE I WAS OF NO USE TO HIM. A LIABILITY.

I WAS RAISED BY A LOVING FAMILY, WHO...WHEN MY FATHER HAD USE FOR ME AGAIN... DIED VIOLENTLY AND SUSPICIOUSLY.

I WAS TRAINED AS HIS PROXY, SO EVEN IN EXILE, HE COULD EXERT HIS WILL OVER THE FAMILIES.

I REVELED IN MY PURPOSE, MISTAKING IT FOR LOVE.

THREE MONTHS AGO, HE ORDERED MY EXECUTION. NOT OUT OF ANIMOSITY...BUT TO COVER HIS OWN FEEBLE MACHINATIONS.

I GAVE MY LIFE TO THE *MAGGIA,* AND NOT ONE OF THEM CARED TO WARN ME.

I WAS TIPPED OFF BY A WOULD-BE C.I.A. ASSASSIN, AFTER I TOOK HIS MIND.

SO NOW I'M TAKING *EVERYTHING.*

EVERYTHING THEY BUILT. *EVERYTHING* MY FATHER HOPED TO GAIN.

THERE IS NO WAY YOU WANT HARLEM MORE THAN I.

I SAW MY DAD EXACTLY *NINE TIMES* BEFORE I WENT TO COLLEGE.

HE NEVER HID WHAT HE DID FROM ME, BUT HE MADE IT CLEAR HE HAD TO DO IT *ALONE.*

HE HAD TO PROTECT ME FROM HIS LIFE.

BUT THAT'S NOT HOW IT *FELT.*

IT FELT LIKE I WASN'T... *SOMETHING* ENOUGH.

SOMETHING ENOUGH TO BE WORTH HIS TIME.

BAD ENOUGH? *MEAN* ENOUGH?

DOESN'T MATTER. 'CAUSE NOW I'M *GROWN.*

AND I'M GONNA BE *WHATEVER IT TAKES* TO FINISH THIS.

WHATEVER I HAVE TO BE.

I'M TAKING THIS *ALL THE WAY.*

CENTRAL PARK. DAWN.

LOVE IT.

BRING EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT.

YOU AS WELL.

OUR FATHERS... THERE'S A REASON THEY LOVE US SO *POORLY.*

WHEN THEY LOOK AT US... THEY ONLY SEE *THEMSELVES.*

BE CAREFUL, JANICE.

YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY QUIET.

SOMETHING YOU WANNA TELL US?

I WAS SUPPOSED TO END THIS WAR BEFORE JANICE GOT INTO TROUBLE.

LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE'S GONNA FIND HER EITHER WAY.

YOU WORRIED SHE'S GONNA LOSE TO MADAME MASQUE?

MAYBE...

MAYBE I'M WORRIED WHAT HAPPENS IF SHE *WINS.*

THEN WE MAKE SURE NOBODY WINS BUT *US.*

MADAME MASQUE HAS AN ARMY. WE NEED ONE TOO.

TIME TO CALL IN THE RESERVES.

THESE GANGS DIDN'T MAKE WAR ON *EACH OTHER.* THEY MADE WAR ON *MY CITY.*

THEY SHOT *MY FRIEND.*

I DON'T CARE HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY'VE GOT. THEY'RE ABOUT TO HAVE A VERY *BAD DAY.*

CENTRAL PARK.

EXQUISITE WORK, *RABBLE.*

I CAN SEE WHY HOBGOBLIN WAS KEEN TO WORK WITH YOU.

YOU'RE CAUGHT UP ON **MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #13-15**, RIGHT? --NL

DIDN'T WANT YOU GOING INTO BATTLE *EMPTY-HANDED.*

IF YOU LOSE, WHO'S GONNA PAY ME?

LOSE?

HOW *COULD* WE?

THIS IS IT, LADIES. WE MADE THE *BIG TIME.*

LET'S SHOW 'EM WE BELONG HERE.

OORAH.

SURE YOU WANT THE JOB, DIGGER? FIRST DAY'S GONNA BE *ROUGH.*

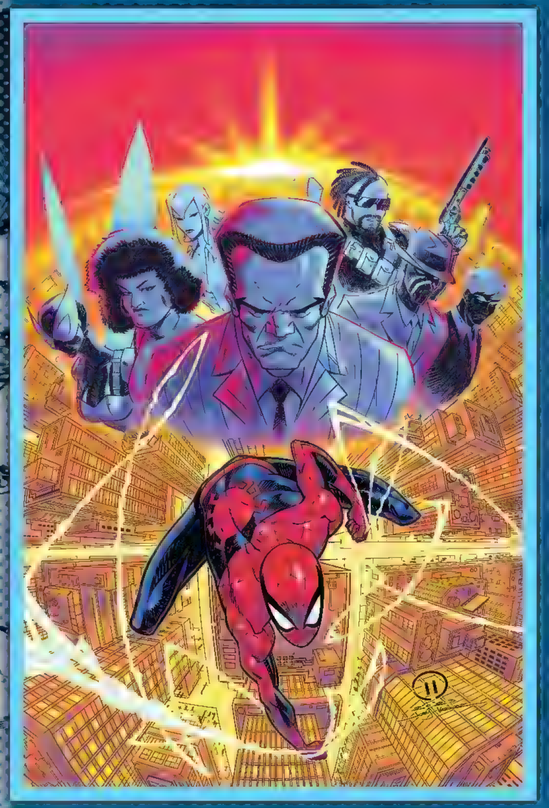
THE ROSE IS OFF GETTING A PANTS-DOWN SPANKING FROM HIS *DAD.*

I NEED A NEW CREW.

GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. YOU'RE *HIRED.*

LOOK ALIVE, EVERYONE.

IT'S GAME TIME.



Joey Vazquez
GANG WAR FIRST STRIKE VARIANT

Nick Bradshaw & Rachelle Rosenberg
GANG WAR FIRST STRIKE VARIANT

Ryan Stegman, JP Mayer & Marcio Menyz
#39 WRAPAROUND VARIANT

HARLEM HOSPITAL CENTER.

YOU DIDN'T WANT ANY OF THIS.

YOU WERE FIGHTING TO KEEP *EVERYONE* SAFE.

AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT HURT.

BECAUSE THEY WANTED THEIR *WAR.*

I'M NOT GONNA LET THEM HAVE IT, RANDY. I'M GONNA PUT A STOP TO IT.

FOR YOU.

I WON'T LET YOU DOWN.

THANKS FOR COMING. I KNOW HE'D WANT...

...HE *WANTS* YOU TO BE HERE.

I'LL BE BACK WHEN THIS IS OVER, ROBBIE.

AND THEN I'M NOT LEAVING HIS SIDE UNTIL HE WAKES UP.

I APPRECIATE THAT, SPIDER-MAN. BUT FOR NOW...

...GET IT DONE.

YOU READY?

READY.

GANG WAR TERRITORIES

BEETLE

BEETLE

MADAME MASQUE

CENTRAL PARK

THE HEAT

MADAME MASQUE

MADAME MASQUE

CENTRAL PARK.

ALL RIGHT, BEETLE. THIS IS THE PART WHERE I GIVE YOU ONE LAST CHANCE.

GIVE UP YOUR TERRITORY. FOLLOW ME. I WILL MAKE YOU A RICH WOMAN.

THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ABOUT IN THE END, ISN'T IT? MONEY?

SORRY, MADAME MASQUE. WE'RE ***STARTER VILLAINS***. WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF OVERHEAD.

PASS.

ALL THE SAME TO ME.

MALAKI-TAI.

MALAKI-TAI!

TIME TO EARN YOUR SUPPER, BIG GUY.

YOU JUST STAND THERE AND SHOOT PRETTY. WE'VE GOT THIS.

GYARRRGH!

NICE TECH.

YOU STILL BUY DVDs, DON'T YOU?

Hmmm, I DON'T LIKE HER.

THEN YOU'RE GONNA *HATE* ME.

BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM

YOU STARTED THIS, MASQUE!

DON'T BE SHY!

NEVER.

TIER

KA-THOOM!

AAAH!!!

DOWN, BOY.

THOOM

GARRGH!!!

YOU'RE WELCOME TO KEEP *SCREAMING*, JANICE. GET YOUR PEOPLE'S ATTENTION.

I WANT THEM TO SEE THIS.

HEY! WHO'S PUSHING BACK THERE?

OH NO--

MASQUE, LOOK!

OH DRAT.

OUCH!
HNNG!
ARGH!
GARK!
WHAT'D WE MISS?
THE MORAL FANATICS ARE HERE. FAN OUT!
IF YOU ALL DON'T MIND I'M GONNA GRAB THE MEGAPHONE.
NAH, MAN, DO YOUR THING! GO!
THANKS, BUDDY.
THIS IS WAR! HIT THEM FAST! TARGET MASQUE'S PEOPLE FIRST!

AS LONG AS I HAVE SOMEONE TO HIT. I'VE HAD A *REAL BAD DAY.*

WHAT'S GOT SPIDER-WOMAN'S GOAT? CHECK OUT HER SERIES TO FIND OUT! --N.L.

COME ON, RABBLE. DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GONNA CARRY WATER FOR MASQUE!

NO, I'M GONNA *KICK YOUR ASS* FOR MASQUE.

BECAUSE SHE'S GONNA GIVE ME AN A.I.M. LAB.

WE CLEAR?

RELOADING.

DON'T BOTHER.

NOTHING'S GONNA KEEP ME OFF OF YOU.

MADAME MASQUE HITS *HARD.*

SHE DOES. AND THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO TAKE THE HITS.

FALL BACK!

YOU DO THAT.

SHE'S MINE.

IS THAT SO?

COME GET YOUR FILL.

MY CITY IS ON *FIRE* BECAUSE OF A WAR YOU STARTED.

I COULD LOSE MY *FRIEND!*

THWP

THWP

THOOM!

THWP

THWP

GAHH!

I WON'T LET YOU PROFIT FROM IT!

SO I'M TAKING MORE THAN *MY FILL!*

I'M TAKING *EVERYTHING!*

AAAH!

SELF-AIMING, LITHIUM VAPOR-PROPELLED MINI-DRONES.

STILL FEELING OKAY ABOUT YOUR SWORD?

VENOM-SABER. BUT YES I AM, THANKS.

YOU SHOULD NOT BE SO EAGER TO TASTE MY BLADES.

HA!

GOBBLE, GOBBLE!

TRICK!

FIRST TIME SEEING ADAMANTIUM?

WERE YOU RAISED BY WOLVES?

PRAY YOU DON'T TIRE OF BOUNCING ABOUT.

I ASSURE YOU THE POWER OF COUNT NEFARIA *DOES NOT TICKLE.*

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH, WE'VE MET BEFORE, DUDE.*

HEY ANYONE SEE DANNY AND SHANG?! THOSE RINGS WOULD BE REAL HELPFUL RIGHT NOW.

IT'S TRUE! BACK IN **NEW AVENGERS** FINALE! --N.L.

TIME TO EAT YOUR SLUGS.

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

Grrr.

YOU EAT THIS.

GURK!

NO ONE GETS MORE THAN ONE SHOT AT ME.

THUD

AND YOU HAD YOURS.

SPLAT

...W-WAIT.

Y-YOU'RE ***TOMBSTONE.*** HOW DID I GET HERE?

DON'T PLAY DUMB.

YOU TOOK A SHOT AT ME. THAT'S HOW YOU GOT HERE.

YOU BROKE THE SIGIL. THANK YOU...

"THANK YOU"?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I'M AGENT JENSEN WALKER. I'M WORKING WITH...

...I ***WAS*** WORKING WITH A GOVERNMENT AGENCY. SENT TO ASSASSINATE THE GANG LORDS OF NEW YORK.

BUT MASQUE GOT ME FIRST. USED HER SIGIL TO CONTROL ME.

DON'T BLAME THIS ON SOME ***MAGIC TATTOO.*** THE REASON DOESN'T MATTER. ***YOU WERE SENT TO KILL ME.***

NO. WE HAD PROFILES ON ALL OF YOU. YOU WERE SLOWING DOWN. PLAYING IT SAFE.

WE WERE MUCH MORE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WAS BECOMING...

...OF YOUR DAUGHTER.

THUD!

JANICE...

EVERYBODY LISTEN UP!

IF YOU GANGS CAN'T STAY SEPARATED, I'M JUST GOING TO HIT EVERYONE!

IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?!

YOU SURE YOU WANT US HOLDING BACK? THE CREW YOUR DAD BROUGHT CAN'T DO THIS ALONE.

NOT UNTIL I GIVE THE WORD.

IT'S ROUGH OUT THERE. SOME OF 'EM MIGHT NOT MAKE IT.

LESS TO WORRY ABOUT ONCE THIS IS OVER.

YOU'RE *DONE*, MASQUE!

YOU THINK YOU ONLY HAVE TO BEAT *ME?*

TILAK-SAH!

TILAK-HUH?

TILAK-SAH!

SORRY, OWL.

KRAK-

GAH!

KIND OF BUSY.

FINE. YOU WANT TO *DO* THIS?! DO YOU WANT TO SEE MY *POWER?*

TEK

ON MY POSITION.

BRING EVERYONE.

KILL SPIDER-MAN!

THIS IS IT. WHILE SHE'S DISTRACTED.

GO!

WHERE'S EVERYBODY GOING?

OH BOY.

HANGING BACK?

D-DAD?

YOUR PEOPLE ARE OUT THERE FIGHTING FOR YOU.

I DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL ME HOW TO PLAY THIS.

I'M GONNA HAVE *ONE CHANCE* TO TAKE *MASQUE* OUT.

I'LL TAKE EVERY ADVANTAGE I CAN GET.

I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU SEEING WHO I WAS...WHAT I BECAME TO GET HERE...

...I DIDN'T NOTICE WHAT *YOU* WERE BECOMING.

NEVER WANTED YOU TO TURN INTO *ME.*

THERE WAS A LITTLE GIRL WHO CARED ABOUT WHAT YOU WANTED HER TO BE.

SHE'S LONG GONE.

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO NOW.

HUH?

I'M SORRY, JANICE.

DAD?

DAD!

WHOEVER WINS TODAY IS GONNA OWN *EVERYTHING.*

AND THEY'RE GONNA HAVE TO BE A *MONSTER* TO *KEEP IT.*

THAT'S NOT YOU, JANICE.

KUB

ACK!

IT'S ME.

Lee Garbett & Yen Nitro

#39 VARIANT

Patrick Gleason & Richard Isanove

#39 FOIL VARIANT

Sean Galloway

#39 & #40 SATURDAY MORNING VARIANTS

JR
JR
S. Hanna
MENDEZ

IN WAR, THERE'S NO TIME TO *THINK*.

BUT THAT'S NEVER STOPPED ME BEFORE. SO HERE I GO:

I *THINK* WE MIGHT BE *WINNING*.

THE BEETLE'S *SYNDICATE* ARE BOLSTERING OUR RANKS. HELPING US DEAL WITH MASQUE'S ARMY.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS KEEP *FIGHTING*.

KEEP *SWINGING*.

AND HOPE THERE'S NO MORE SURPRISES.

HEY, WATCH IT, ELECTRO! WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE!

FOR THE MOMENT.

SORRY, SHE-HULK. THIS HAS BEEN FUN...

...BUT OUR ORDERS HAVE CHANGED.

UH-OH.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

BACK OFF!

WHY ARE ELECTRO AND LADY OCTOPUS GOING AFTER SPIDER-MAN'S CREW?! DIDN'T THEY GET THE MEMO?!

NEW MEMO.

B-BOSS?

WE HELP SPIDER-MAN *WIN* AND WE'RE *ALL* GONNA *LOSE*.

WE'RE PULLING OUT. I GAVE THE WORD.

JANICE GOOD WITH THIS?

YOU HAVE TROUBLE HEARING?

I GAVE THE WORD.

YOU HEARD THE BOSS, HARLEM! CHANGE OF PLANS!

DOUBLE UP ON THE SQUARES!

WAIT-- WHO ARE THE SQUARES?

AGH!

WHO DO YOU THINK?!

ME?!

SORRY, LADIES...

HNNGH!

...ORDERS ARE ORDERS!

YOU WANT A PIECE, PASTE-POT PATTY?

SPLORK

IT'S TRAPSTR, #$%&!

WE'RE OUT OF HERE! MOVE!

THAT MEANS YOU, ELECTRO!

JUST SAYING A QUICK GOODBYE!

REALLY APPRECIATED. THANK YOU.

GYAAARRGH!

SHAZAM!

HARLEM HAS BETRAYED YOU, SPIDER-MAN. AND UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU...

...THAT REALLY FREES UP SOME HANDS.

PERHAPS THAT IS A BETRAYAL WE SHOULD HAVE SEEN COMING...

REGARDLESS, IT HURT LIKE HELL.

THIS STUFF IS TOUGHER THAN IT LOOKS.

JUST GIVE ME A SECOND.

I DON'T THINK WE HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME.

MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL, FATHER.

GARRGHH!

STAY CLOSE!

FIGHT AS ONE!

DOWN.

RA R R GHH!

TH-THEY'VE GOT SHE-HULK!

WE'RE IN TROUBLE!

SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE, PLAYBOY...

...BUT IT'S NOT YOU.

KRUNCH

SO, ALL THESE GUYS WORK FOR A.I.M.?

YES.

AND A.I.M. WORKS FOR MADAME MASQUE?

I THINK SO?

SO IT'S OKAY TO HIT THEM?

YES!

YOU GOT IT, MS. JACKPOT!

IT'S JUST "JACKPOT"!

CAREFUL, SILVERMANE. HIS *DEATH* BELONGS TO OUR MASTER.

I'M JUST SOFTENING HIM UP...

D-DRIVING ME INTO THE GROUND.

CRUSHING ME.

GOTTA FIGHT.

STAY DOWN, BOY.

OR I MAY JUST PUNCH A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH YOU!

NO CHOICE...

GOTTA PUSH...

HUH?

GOTCHA.

BLAM!

THE SIGILS...

SHOTGUN.

NICE WORKING WITH YOU, MASQUE.

SEE YOU AROUND.

WHAT ARE WE DOING? THESE MARKINGS--

MY DAUGHTER... SHE *ENSLAVED* US.

AND FOR THAT, I WILL TAKE *EVERYTHING* FROM HER...

...THE FIRST THING BEING HER *KILL.*

Y-YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ME, AREN'T YOU?

BACK OFF!

WE GOT THE HEAVY HITTERS, SPIDEY!

TH-THANKS...

DON'T THANK THEM YET...

...I HIT *PLENTY HARD.*

C-COME ON, MASQUE. STOP THIS. IT'S *OVER.*

THEN IT WILL COST YOU, SPIDER-MAN. AND NOT JUST YOU.

I COULD HAVE CONTROLLED EVERY CRIMINAL ON THE ISLAND. NOW THERE WILL BE *CHAOS.* EVERY *NEW YORKER* WILL PAY!

WE ALREADY *HAVE!* OUR CITY IS *BURNING!* IT'LL TAKE *MONTHS* TO RECOVER. NOT TO MENTION *RANDY ROBERTSON...*

YOU SHOT MY FRIEND!

THAT... THAT WASN'T MY DECISION.

DO YOU THINK THAT MATTERS?!

"YOU WANTED *WAR!*

"AND WAR HAS A COST!"

DO YOU THINK YOUR HANDS ARE CLEAN?! DO YOU THINK YOU MADE THINGS BETTER?!

YOU RUINED EVERYTHING!

NO. YOU DID THIS.

IT'S NOT AN ACCIDENT IT ENDED THIS WAY...

"...IT'S NOT BAD LUCK.

"WHEN YOU TAKE AND TAKE WITHOUT CONSIDERATION...

"...PEOPLE GET HURT."

THWIP

AND WHAT YOU NEVER REALIZE UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE IS THAT, EVENTUALLY...

DIE!

THWAK

KA-BOOM!

Hnnnn...

...THE PERSON GETTING *HURT* IS YOU.

LOOKS LIKE I BET ON THE WRONG HORSE, SPIDER-MAN! WE'LL FINISH THIS LATER...

...ONE-ON-ONE!

Whoa! SICK CLOAKING TECH, RABBLE!

DON'T COMPLIMENT THE VILLAINS, SPIDER-BOY!

OH, WOW. SHE'S, LIKE... *GONE.*

I GUESS IT *IS* PRETTY COOL.

SEE?!

HOPE THEY KNOW A GOOD LAWYER.

I CERTAINLY WON'T BE LEAVING MY CARD.

IT'S *OVER.* WE *DID IT.*

YEAH, *ALL* OF US.

SHANG-CHI? DANNY? WHERE *WERE* YOU GUYS?

WHERE WERE *WE?!*

DANNY, RELAX.

NOBODY *SAW* THAT??? ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

IT'S FINE. WE DON'T USE OUR GIFTS IN SEARCH OF GLORY.

#$%& THAT! THEY LEFT THE KUNG FU GUYS TO FIGHT A *FLEET* OF *TANKS!*

I WANT FULL CREDIT!

AND WHERE WERE *YOU,* JEN?!

I WAS TIRED OF FIGHTING TANKS.

YOU WERE--

SHANG, ARE YOU HEARING THIS?!

LET IT GO, DANNY.

YOU FIGHT MEAN. I LIKE IT.

IF YOU EVER NEED ME, CALL.

I MIGHT TAKE YOU UP ON THAT.

HEY, LITTLE GUY. YOU HANDLED YOURSELF REALLY WELL THERE.

THANKS. I CONSIDERED *BEASTING OUT* AND BITING SOME PEOPLE BUT IT FELT LIKE OVERKILL.

UHH... GOOD MOVE?

NEW YORK OWES YOU, SPIDEY.

AND I OWE *YOU,* LUKE.

I KNOW HELPING ME WAS TECHNICALLY *ILLEGAL.* I HOPE YOU DIDN'T GET YOURSELF IN TROUBLE.

ACTUALLY, I'VE GOT SOME GOOD NEWS ON THAT FRONT...

FISK'S LAW HAS BEEN *REPEALED.*

PEOPLE ALL OVER THE ISLAND CALLED THE *CITY COUNCIL.* EVEN THE *POLICE UNION* GOT INVOLVED...

...PEOPLE TOOK TO THE STREETS. THEY SAW A PROBLEM, AND THEY RISKED THEIR LIVES TO *DEMAND ACTION.*

SOUND FAMILIAR?

I KNOW YOU CAN'T TALK SO I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT...

...I WAS TALKING ABOUT *YOU,* RANDY.

YOU DID IT, BUD. YOU GOT THAT LAW OFF THE BOOKS.

THAT'S GOING TO MAKE *HELPING PEOPLE* A LOT EASIER IN THIS CITY.

B-BUT IS IT OKAY IF I ADMIT THAT...SEEING YOU LIKE THIS...

...IT DOESN'T FEEL *WORTH* IT?

TH-THAT I'D RATHER JUST HAVE YOU BACK? BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I WANT, RANDY.

JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME...

OKAY, I'M SORRY. I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE.

RANDY?

RANDY?!

I THOUGHT IT'D BE FUNNY TO SURPRISE YOU, BUT THIS IS JUST MAKING ME SAD.

Y-YOU'RE AWAKE?!

YOU'RE AWAKE!

YEAH... WOKE UP AFTER SPIDER-MAN LEFT THIS MORNING.

HE MUST HAVE SAID SOMETHING INSPIRING. NOT LIKE WHATEVER *YOU* JUST DID--

SHUT UP, RANDY!

YOU'RE AWAKE!

AH AH AH!

TAKE IT EASY, BUDDY!

SORRY. SORRY!

YOU'RE AWAKE!

Y-YEAH...AND MY DAD TOLD ME THINGS GOT PRETTY HAIRY WHILE I WAS ASLEEP.

BUT SPIDER-MAN TOOK CARE OF IT?

HE DID. BUT HE HAD A LOT OF ***HELP.***

EVERY GANG IN NEW YORK CITY CAME OUT OF THE WOODWORK... AND JUST ABOUT EVERY HERO YOU'VE HEARD OF PITCHED IN.

HE EVEN TEAMED UP WITH TOMBSTONE FOR A MINUTE THERE.

WOW.

HOW DID THAT END?

OH, YOU KNOW. A PRETTY GNARLY DOUBLE CROSS.

HE ESCAPED WITH THE SYNDICATE.

WHAT ABOUT JANICE?

PETER?

WHAT HAPPENED TO JANICE?

I...I DON'T KNOW, RANDY.

NO ONE DOES...

COPS DIDN'T GET HER, WE KNOW THAT. YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS?

I TOLD YOU, WE HAD A *DISAGREEMENT.* SHE LEFT.

YOU THINK SHE'S COMING BACK?

DEPENDS ON HOW WELL I MADE MY POINT.

YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY. YOU JUST GOT *PROMOTED.* ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE SYNDICATE.

NEW YORK USED TO BE *FULL* OF GANGSTERS. NOW WE'RE THE ONLY ONES LEFT.

THE CITY IS OURS.

BOSS...

EVERYONE'S LICKING THEIR WOUNDS NOW. NO ONE'S GONNA CHALLENGE YOU FOR A GOOD LONG WHILE. BUT NO ONE'S GONNA *FORGET* THAT WHEN THERE WAS WAR, YOU FOUGHT ON *SPIDER-MAN'S* SIDE.

THAT'S GONNA BE *TROUBLE.*

CITY WOULD'VE BURNED IF I HADN'T TURNED TO HIM.

WHEN THE CARDS WERE ON THE TABLE...

...HE WAS THE ONLY ONE I TRUSTED.

KNEW HE'D DO THE RIGHT THING EVEN IF IT MEANT HELPING *ME.*

LIKE IT OR NOT...HE *SHOWED UP* FOR ME. I *OWE* HIM.

SO WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?

I'M GONNA BEAT HIM TO DEATH WITH MY *BARE HANDS.*

LOUD AND IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, WHERE EVERYONE CAN SEE.

NO ONE'S GONNA REMEMBER ANYTHING AFTER THAT.

COME ON. WE'VE GOT A CITY TO RUN.

NOT THE END!

GANG WAR TERRITORIES

J. Scott Campbell & Tanya Lehoux

#40 SKI CHALET VARIANT

Joey Vazquez

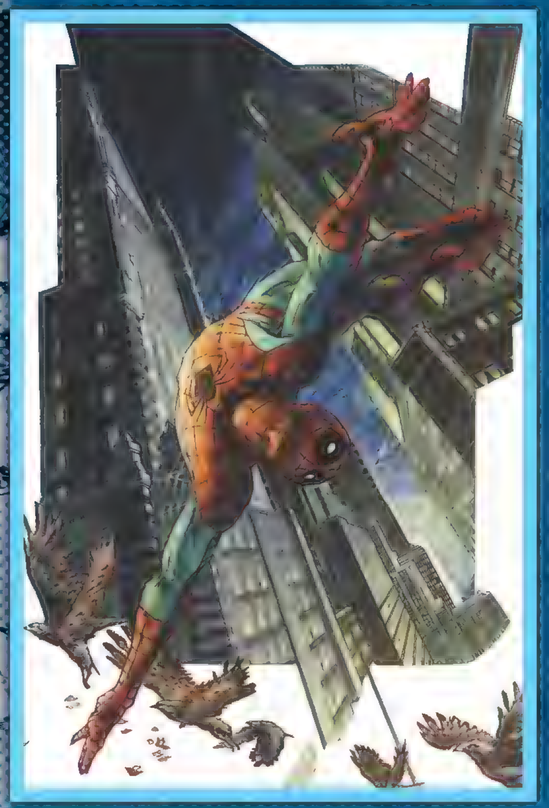
#40 VARIANT

Peach Momoko

#40 NIGHTMARE VARIANT

Tony Daniel & Sonia Oback

#40 VARIANT



Pete Woods
#41 VARIANT

Simone Bianchi
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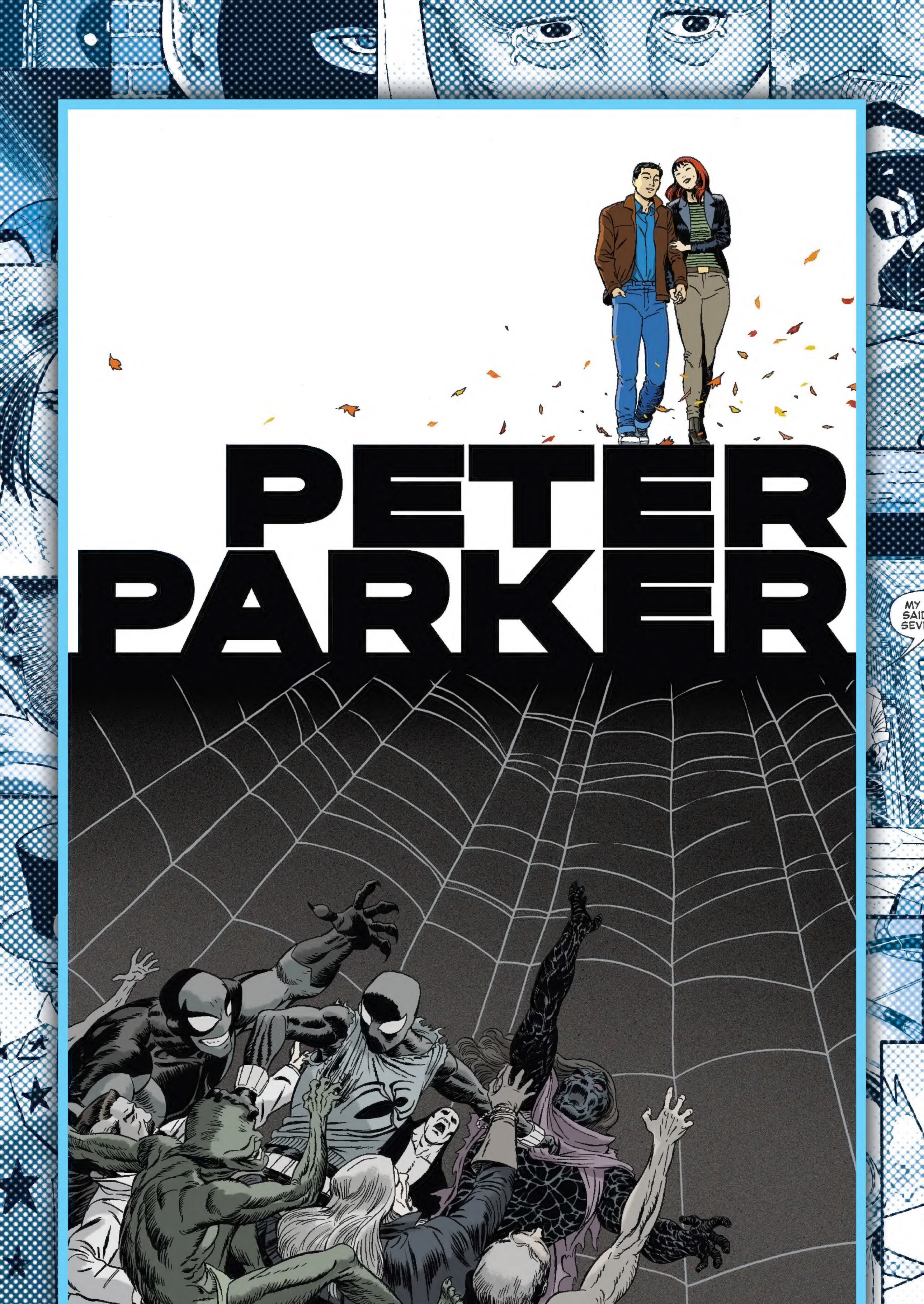

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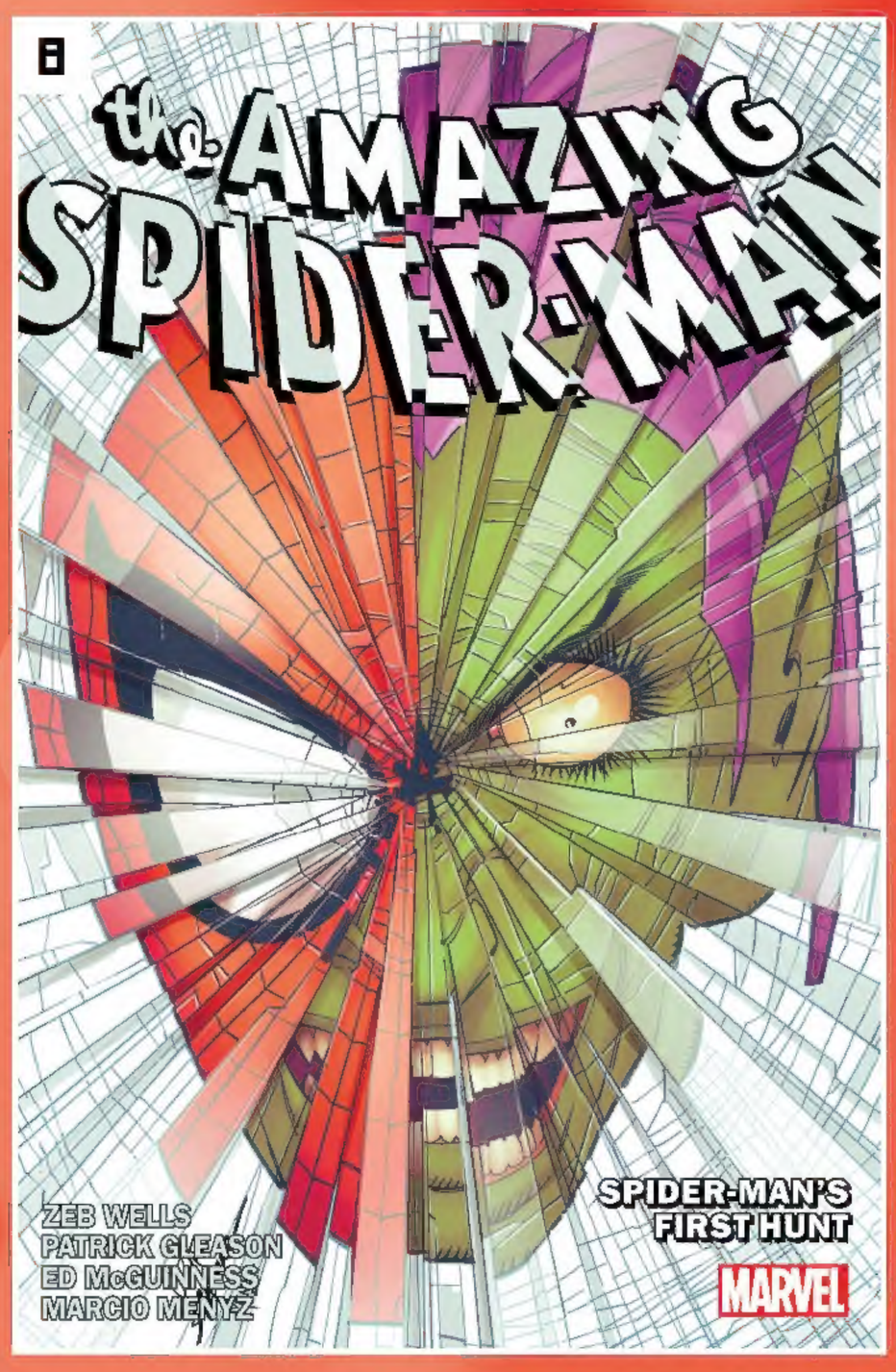

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